AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-5. (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) [[The]] An isolated peptide ~~according to claim 1, the peptide~~ consisting essentially of an amino acid sequence represented by any one of SEQ ID NOS: 4 to 12 or 14 to 17.

7-9. (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended) A method for diagnosing Alzheimer's disease, comprising:

obtaining a sample of body fluid or tissues taken from a subject,

determining quantitatively the amount of the peptide according to claim [[1]] 6 present in said sample,

wherein Alzheimer's disease is indicated when the amount of said peptide is greater than the amount of said peptide present in a control non-Alzheimer's disease sample.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein said sample of body fluid is blood or cerebrospinal fluid.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein [[the]] a ratio of a high-molecular-weight peptide consisting of any one of SEQ ID NOS: 4 to 12 or 14 to 17 and one or more additional amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 1 compared to ~~the quantitatively determined~~ a peptide consisting essentially of any one of SEQ ID NOS: 4 to 12 or 14 to 17 is used as an indicator for diagnosing Alzheimer's disease~~, wherein said high-molecular-weight peptide is a peptide which is obtained when the cleavage site of an N-terminal region is closer to the N-terminal end, or the cleavage site of a C-terminal region is closer to the C-terminal end, or a combination of both~~.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for screening a therapeutic agent for Alzheimer's disease, comprising:

contacting cells containing the isolated peptide according to claim [[1]] 6 with an agent to be screened; and

determining a change in the amount of the peptide or a change in a molecular species of the peptide, wherein

said molecular species is a high-molecular-weight peptide which is a peptide consisting of any one of SEQ ID NOS: 4 to 12 or 14 to 17 with one or more additional amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 1 ~~which is obtained when the cleavage site of an N-terminal region is closer to the N-terminal end, or the cleavage site of a C-terminal region is closer to the C-terminal end, or a combination of both~~;

said change in the amount of the peptide is a decrease in the amount of the peptide and is caused by said agent to be screened ~~is observed~~; and

said change in the molecular species of the peptide is a change from [[a]] the high-molecular-weight peptide to a ~~low-molecular-weight~~ peptide of any one of SEQ ID NOS: 4 to 12 or 14 to 17 and is caused by said agent to be screened ~~is observed~~.

14. (Withdrawn) An antibody against the peptide according to claim 1.

15. (Withdrawn) A diagnostic reagent for Alzheimer's disease, the reagent comprising the antibody according to claim 14.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein said sample is brain tissue.

17. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein the detection of a decrease in the amount of the peptide caused by said agent or detection of a peptide selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS: 4 to 12 or 14 to 17 caused by said agent is by Western blotting, dot

blotting, ELISA, sandwich ELISA, radioimmunoassay, immunoprecipitation; mass spectrometry using a MALDI-TOF/MS; and combinations thereof.

18. (New) The method of claim 10 which further comprises measuring the amount of a first peptide consisting essentially of any one of SEQ ID NOS: 4 to 12 or 14 to 17 and comparing the amount of said peptide to the amount of a high-molecular-weight peptide, wherein said high-molecular weight peptide is a cleavage product of SEQ ID NO:1, which has a higher molecular weight than said first peptide.

19. (New) A method for screening a therapeutic agent for Alzheimer's disease, comprising:

contacting cells containing the isolated peptide according to claim 6 with an agent to be screened; and

determining a change in the amount of the peptide or a change in a molecular species of the peptide, wherein said molecular species is a high-molecular-weight peptide and said high-molecular weight peptide is a cleavage product of SEQ ID NO:1, which has a higher molecular weight than first peptide,

wherein said change in the amount of the peptide is a decrease in the amount of the peptide and is caused by said agent to be screened; and

said change in the molecular species of the peptide is a change from the high-molecular-weight peptide to the peptide and is caused by said agent to be screened.